## MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS.

Meeting of the Board of Aldermen.

INTERESTING MESSAGE OF MAYOR HALL.

## Annual Reports of Municipal Departments.

The Albany Commissions Censured-Respon-sibility of the City in Taxation-Proposed

City Improvements.
The Board of Aldermen met at two o'clock yester. day afternoon. After the transaction of some roupate in a review of the New York Schützen Corps at Jones' Wood on the 21st, 22d and 23d inst.

The annual message of the Mayor was received

The annual message of the Mayor was received and is as follows:—

MAYOR'S OFFICE, }

NEW YORK, June 7, 1869. 
GEVILLMEN OF THE COMMON COUNCIL:—

Alemanal reports from municipal departments have now been printed in documentary form, and State legislation has adjusted municipal government for the current year in accordance with the will of the political majority. The Mayor, therefore, considers it opportune to obey that charter provision which prescribes a duty to him of communicating to the "Common Council at least once a year, and offener if he shall deem it expedient, a general statement of the situation and condition of the city in relation to us government, finances and improvement, and to recomment for the adoption of the Common Council measures which he shall deem expedient, as connected with the police, security, health, cleanliness and ornament of the city."

Later legislation prohibited the corporate authorities from administrating the most important "imancial intensits of the city." and every matter connected with "police, security, leatin, cleanliness and ornament of the city."

Later legislation prohibited the city and county authorities have been exclusively made responsible. (2) To a few matters for which the city and county authorities have been exclusively made responsible. (2) To a few matters of "government" still vouch-safed the metropolis. And (3) to considerations embaced by those remaining charter phrases in the section just quoted—"Improvement and ornament." However, the original significance and importance of the Mayor's communications (or—as they are politely and popularly termed—messages) have been almost destroyed by the intelligent industry of the public press. Reporters and editors glean the fields of public and official information with such microscopies and envised from their exertions that this communication is scarcely more than an official recognition and recording of matters and suggestions already made known by the newspapers.

We are not at all responsible for the city and ex

bility of the result.

Quite Interesting subjects connected with these tax levies and with the recklessly partisan or ignorant inducaces which were brought to bear against only authorities by rural legislators here suggest themselves for discussion; but they can be post-poned until near the commencement of the next tentiality session.

logislative session.

Schedules A and B, hereto annexed, detail the sums required to be raised by tax during the current year for purposes respectively controlled by city and county authorities.

For those city purposes the amount is only \$4.151.000.

those county purposes the amount is only S. nedule C shows the highly satisfactory condition the sinking fund for the redemption of the local

The amounts just stated (in the aggregate reach-

The amounts just stated (in the aggregate reaching \$5,465,504) of course exclude sums expended by the various state commissions which are scattered throughout the city, and whose officers are allowed to receive their appropriations in an aggregate camount and to discretionally spend it in detail, entirely unhampered by the dog-in-the-manger legislation that yearly afflicts the local government.

Those commissions, too, have all their disbursements (amounting to several millions adjusted and settled here without invoking legislative ald. Thus it is constitutional and expedient to partially give our local authorities a right that is wholly possessed by every other numicipality except. New York. The reason for this discrimination lies in the fact that political virtue resides at the State capitol, or in the bureaus of legislatively created officers. It is only accidental, permaps, that within a fortnight past one of the State commissioners has been morally convicted by a local jury of faking a bribe.

The assessed valuation of the real and personal estate in this city for the current year will be about \$1,000,000.00. This is an increase of nearly \$90,000,000. This is an

The award of a recent loan evidences the city credit. It was taken at a premium of two per cent. It has been complained by an administration journal that the city is compelled to pay seven per cent interest on its obligations, but the federal government pays nearly nine per cent in currency upon its bonds.

that the city is compelled to pay seven per cent interest on its obligations, but the federal government pays nearly nine per cent in currency upon its bonds.

MARKETS.

A satisfactory increase in city revenue from the markets will be noticed. In declining to sign a bill for the crection of a new public market sore as bill for the crection of a new public market sore as of the markets will be noticed. In declining to sign a bill for the crection of a new public market sore persons, with private capital. The public market system has not worked well, and should not be extended." There are many who argo a sale of the markets and the retiring of corporate authorities. "From the hockster business." In this connection, the Mayor submits an interesting report made by denieral viele (schedule b) upon markets. His arguments are interesting, and some of his conclusions may invite your action. The Mayor recommends the sale of the Gouverneur and Franklin markets properly, and a surrounding of Washington, Fulson and Clinton markets with sectional fron frameworks, in such a manner as not seriously to interfere with business during their creations, and if made to contain a second story of galleries for stands they will thereby relieve the adjacent streats. Before winter there will have been created around Fallton market slip jused as a fish market; a structure that may become the model for other similar improvements. It will be constructed by the Fishmongers' Association, recently incorporated by the Legislature, and which has leased city property for the purpose of the improvement.

WHARVES AND PHIRS.

The present condition of the wharves and piers, as well of those belonging to private parties as of some owned by the Corporation, is not due to the omissions or doings of municipal authorities. Some of them should be rebuilt and others extended to the prescribed limits. Yet neither private owners nor the Corporation, would be justified infinishing more flam should be rebuilt and others extended to the presented limits. Yet ne

The comprehensive reports of the Corporation Counsel, Corporation Attorney and Public Adminis-trator will suggest much appropriate action to your committee.

trator will suggest much appropriate action to your committees.

The Mayor at present merely recommends that claims against the city should, if possible, be adjusted without hitigation. It is rare, indeed, for any corporation, private or public, to save money through a law suit. The sympathies of jurymen always, and the leaning, insensibly to themselves, of judges oftentimes, favor the taughte plainting against the intangible incorporation.

In connection with legal matters, it may be added that there will soon be presented for your consideration a codification of the ordinances when the Mayor and his legal conduitors are preparing. Some of the ordinances are susceptible of condensation, belief may be simplified. A few should be conformed to and made consistent with recent State

laws and many new ordinances are required. The existing remedies are also capable of boing adjusted to more summary, precise and practical results.

However, the substantial Mayor and Common Council of the city for making or enforcing ordinances seem to be the ingenious Superintendent of Police, who has been allowed, at least until lately, to usary the functions of the Board in issuing at his discretion all manner of orders. Those, when accepted and obeved by the patrolinen, become more effective than ordinances. It is perhaps fortunate, under such circumstances of power and its exercise, that the city possesses a Superintendent whose tact, caimness, courtesy, prudence, anniability and devotion to the rights of persons and property, and all the principles of magna charta, have been, by his actions, made widely apparent throughout the land.

CROYON AQUEDUOT DEPARTHENT.

The report of the Croton Aqueduct Department presents nothing new or interesting. With a view to supply information with which it ought to have furnished us, and to give that department some scientific information, the Mayar requested from Charles H. Haswell (formerly chief engineer of the United States Navy, and the author of a celebrated work on engineering) a communication about affairs embraced under the Croton Department, which seems so important and valuable that it is nerewith submitted. (Scheduie E.)

The citizens of New York have very generally entertained an opinion that the affairs of the Croton Aqueduct Board were conducted in the most economical, efficient, scientific and serviceable manner. The result of the Mayor's observations thus far has led him to a very different opinion, which, in a future communication, after the litigation has been determined, he will present for discussion. It may be enough to instance, in addition to the matters referred to by Mr. Haswell, that not long since scores of house blocks in the city were for forty-cight hours shu to from water supply, thus exposing the city to losses by fire which in magnitude

of irresponsible corporation by themselves that the city ought not, in any wise, to be accredited or debited with their acts.

LEGISLATIVE LEGERDEMAIN—POWERS OF THE CORMOGRATION.

It is now seven years since the Mayor and Common Council have been allowed a voice in selecting the heads of this, one of the theoretical departments of the city government. The legislative history of the Croton Aqueduct Board, for nearly ten years, has presented a continuous chronicling by its officers of their efforts to continue themselves in office by appeals for legislative aid. The president of the Board was so notoriously incompetent for the duties of his important trust, as far back as 1803, that his friends were compelled to resort to legislative idegredemain in order to deprive the local authorities of the pleasure of giving the Croton Board a sooter, intelligent and executive head. But finally, in December, 1864, his extended term of office ended. Mayor Hoffman and your predecessors filled up the new term by the appointment of a gentleman. The present President, however, resisted the claims of the new incumbent, and claimed that the Mayor and Common Council had lost the power to appoint a President of the Croton Board, because an act of the Legislature, which was sunggled through in his interest, had provided that vacancies in the Croton department should be filled by the remaining members. The resisting President did not, however, claim that he had been appointed by the remaining members. The resisting President did not, however, leain that he had been appointed by the vacancies. In the spring of 1857 more legislative legerdemain extended the terms of such of the Croton Board as were "then in office." If that act was constitutional, and embraced any officer, it embraced the gentleman who had been appointed by the Mayor and Common Council, but who, although not physically in an office (as entitled to 1t), providing that by using the parase, vacancies in office shall be flied by the remaining Commissioners, the appointing po

oureaus of legislatively created officers. It is only accidental, perhaps, that within a fortnight past one of the State commissioners has been morally convicted by a local jury of taking a bribe.

The assessed valuation of the real and personal estate in this city for the current year will be about \$1,000,000,000. This is an increase of nearly \$19,000,000 over the assessment valuations of 1888, which is, however, only the average increase from year to year. The largest proportion of such increase will be levied upon property situated in the upper part of the city. Last year the percentage from year to year. The largest proportion of such increase will be levied upon property situated in the upper part of the city. Last year the percentage from year to year. The largest proportion of such increase will be levied upon property situated in the upper part of the city. Last year the percentage areas under the word "benefited." This was also unjust. But a recent law provides that in cases is unjust. But a recent law provides that in cases of the interpolation. Certainly its agents were more prastical than usual in their co-operation with the local gratinorities.

But the annual report of the Comptroller will answer every practical question concerning city finances that we or our constituents can possibly put. It has already been published and commenced upon by the press. The public learned with grain cation that nearly five misions of dollars were added during the past two years to the sinking fund. A few more years of such wise and prudent administration of the revenues by the Comptroller and Chamberlain as these figures indicate must disconting the past two years to the sinking fund. A few more years of such wise and prudent administration of the revenues by the Comptroller and Chamberlain as these figures indicate must disconting the past two years to the sinking fund. A few more years of such wise and prudent administration of the revenues of the comptroller and charge the property will be about the fundamental

As to sewage, an illustration will explain. The Legislature, in 1865, authorized the Croton Aqueduct Board to frame and carry into effect a plan of sewage for the whole city. Practically that cannot be done, if payment is to be made by local assessments. Property will not bear the expense. The size of sewers in different streets must be determined, not by the necessity of such streets, but by the relation of each sewer to the plan of which it is a part. The pecuniary relation of each sewer to property drained or each sewer to the plan of which it is a part. The pecuniary relation of each sewer to property drained by it is not determined by the cost of construction of such sewer, and cannot possibly be ascertained that the whole system is completed, and, of course, cannot be equitably apportioned by assessors under our present system.

How THE EXPENSES SHOULD BE DEFRAYED. If the whole is paid by taxation the expense is defraved.

cannot be equitably apportioned by assessors under our present system.

HOW THE EXPENSES SHOULD BE DEFRAYED.

If the whole is paid by taxation the expense is defrayed by property in proportion to its value, and this is right. Neither is it just to charge upon property to-day the whole expense of an improvement which will benefit the city for many years. If a projected work will last fifty years the expense should be spread over that period. This cannot be done by assessment; it may by general taxation, in connection with which eight uprovement bonds may be issued as necessity requires, maturing at different times during the estimated duration of the works for the construction of which they are issued. Besides, under the late assessment system coteries of selfish property owners from a small section of the cy could always veratiously delay, even if they could not defeat, valuable and necessary improvements demanded by the great body of citizens. Next winter we must make another fight for additional laws, securing the equilies just referred to. Department of emport was, securing the equilies just referred to. Department of public charities and Correction and hopes that you will in every respect continue to aid the enterprising, economical and useful labors of its Commissioners. Since the report was presented legislation has invested them with authority to build a founding hospital; to establish a free intolligence office for the stranger, the oppressed, the needy and the outcast; to institute a natical school, with provision for a ship, on which navigation can be practically taught to the culidren of the poor, and to establish the nucleus of a down town hospital, rendered necessary by the removal of the New York, of the legislature the necessity for a new city prison. That convenient phrase, "municipal jobbery," always answered him. The Mayor hopes that, with your co-operation, a new place of detention for those suspected of being criminals may be provided by the next Legislature. A great English writer by the po

sire to possess the same kind of power, might as effectually aid in obtaining the reform indicated for New York.

There are 212 miles of streets in the city of New York of which eighty-one miles are in block and five miles in wooden pavement. The remainder are either subjected to cobblestones or await pavement. Since the city has experienced the Guidet pavement on Broadway it seems apparent that these new blocks must hereafter supersed the Beigian wherevever stone pavement is desired. The Nicolson wooden pavement has not been found reliable except in side streets. An adaptation of the wooden pavement called the Stowe pavement has been tried in San Prancisco with great success. Your attention is invited to it and also to the Fisk concrete pavement. The latter is composed of gravel, broken stone, cinders and coal ashes (free from loam, clay, garbage or any other foreign substance), mixed in definite proportions with tar, pitch, rosin and asphaltum. This composition is spread upon the road-bed in layers from two to four inches in thickness and each layer thoroughly rolled with heavy rollers. The thickness of this composition when the roadway is completed is not less than six houses. This pavement is substantially well known in Baris and Continental cities, where it has been ex-

tensively used. The American patent, however, gives it better adaptation to our climate as respectis the action of summer heat upon the surface or as regards the friction during winter from the calks which, by the conditious frost of an American winter, are rendered necessary for horses' shoes. The Common Council appear, by their action about a year ago, to have favorably received the Fisk pavement and the City Tax law, by its provisions allowing the use of that pavement, evidences that it received the approbation of the Legislature and the Citizens' Association. The report of the Committee on Roads to the Board of Councilmen, February 4, 1868, agreed that the Fisk concrete pavement saved the wear and tear of horses and vehicles, made no dust or mud, was hard and smooth, and yet animals did not slip upon it, and that it was superior to the French concrete pavement laid in Parts, which has worn for thirty years; that it was superior to stone and cheaper than any other pavement in the city, and that this macadam concrete pavement had been tested in the Park, wherein, ourling 1867, 40,000 square feet were laid. Also that it had been tested in the Park, wherein, ourling 1867, 40,000 square feet were laid. Also that it had been tested in Prospect Park, Brooklyn; Druid Hill, Saltimore; in streets of New Haven, Chicago, Washington and Lockhaven; and that six inches pressed to four inches in depth of the pavement had, at Kensie's dock, near Hamilton ferry, Brooklyn, withstood, without perceptible impression upon it, a year's attack by the vast trucks engaged daily in hauling anchors, chains and the coarsest mercantile material.

FRESENT CODITION OF THE STREETS.

The Legislature this year had the fairness to empower the Street Commissioner, in his discretion, to mend all the old cobble stone pavements. The year everywhere in a deplorable condition. The expense of repairing them was so enormous that prior legislation shrunk from voting the supplies. The need for the money fineresed yearly. But the expense is to be defray

one of these nights piece of none quarter of a mile on either side.

How the New Light shore at the tulleries and the result.

Some months ago baron haussmann ordered the discoverer of the new method of producing oxygen gas to light up the City Hall of the French capital. After which the Emperor ordered the court of the Tulteries to be illuminated in the same way. Those brilliant exhibitions led to the granting permission to my an extra pipe in the city of Paris for the conveyance of oxygen, to be used with the street gas. A few wealthy gentlemen have recently erected works in Forty-first street, near Eleventh avenue, for producing this oxygen, and the retorts are now in daily operation. They have mad about 20,000 cubic feet of oxygen in a gas heider, and made much more by passing alternately air and steam over the manganate of sods.

Economy in Light.

oxygen in a gas noner, and made much more by passing alternately air and steam over the manganate of soda.

Economy in Light.

Many of the lights just referred to can be produced at an expense less than the charge of the gas companies. In due time some of these inventions must succreede gas for street purposes. The time will come when our citizens can laugh at the former gas lamps as much as they did forty years ago at the old-fashioned oil lamps. Between private gas consumers and the companies the former must always be at the mercy of the latter. The latter are an hundred in number throughout the State—they always work together and naturally in their own interests.

THE MONOPOLY ALMOST AT AN END.

They constitute together an immense monopoly, which can always suitably impress their views upon legislators. But as between the gas companies and the city, practical results and beneficial to the city can be obtained by submitting the quality of the gas, for which we certainly pay remunerative prices, to a scientific test, under direction of municipal servants, and by the city selecting larger burners for lamps. The Mayor recommends that your appropriate committees forthwith select some section of the city for practical experiments upon the effeacy of the latest inventions in street lighting.

the chicacy of the latest inventions in street lighting.

CLEAN STREETS.

The streets of New York are assumed to be swept under the provision of a contract made several years ago. Municipal annals during the past fifty years evidence the suppopularity of street cleaning inspectors and contractors. There is no use in denying that our streets and avenues cannot be kept clean for the sum now paid to the contractor. The sum which was adequate when the contract was made, is now insumicant. A legislative attempt was recently made by the municipal authorities to increase the stipead and provide stronger guarantees for performance of labor; but it was unsuccessful. THE FAY INSUPPLICENT—ERCOMENDATION TO THE CITIZENS.

If the taxpayers want their streets thoroughly cleaned, they must make up their minds to pay a proper sum for it. But they can also do much to ad the authorities. If the sweepings and refuse from the interior of shops, stores, manufactories and not furtively thrown into the thoroughfares; if some pride was taken in maintaining cleanliness in front of premises, fully one-half the present expense and abor of the authorities in trying to maintain clean thoroughfares would be saved. The contractor might be added by policemen detailed to his office, independent and spasmodic enforcement of ordinances by the general detail of patrolinen are not practicable, and the ruts of the present police system are very deep, if any one wisses to start a car of reform.

Entyl important as well as interesting sub-

But the most important as well as interesting subjects for our municipal care are—first, how to prevent in the daytime the chokings of thorouging respected, how, towards nightfall, to afford 200,000 people an easy and rapid access to their homes from their piaces of toil and business.

To practically and immediately solve these problems the cuty authorities could almost afford to surrender their entire time and attention.

Every one must have noticed that, whereas in the

Every one must have nosheed that, whereas in the intancy of New York city people came to it from all parts of our own country "to make fortunes," they have recently thronged here cither to increase the fortunes aiready begun elsewhere or to spend them smid the luxuries and comforts of a great national metropolis. New York has been, therefore, for some time becoming a centre not only for accumulating but investing fortunes. And the tendency of population and the traffic to our city is so great that we are in danger of being hampered by our own prosperity.

If our down town thoroughfares are annoyingly choked up in 1809, what will be the case in such a respect only five years hence? While the city thoroughfares above Fourteenth street are being cared for in the matter of ornament, those below Union square should be attended to in order that the domands of transit for traffic be fully answered.

All improvements above Fourteenth street must be made under authority of the Legislature, if they alter the made under authority of the Legislature, if they alter the made under authority of the Legislature, if they alter the word of the next Legislature city and upon assembling of the next legislated city and upon assembling of the next legislature city properly and upon a city properly and upon assembling city and upon a city properly and upon a ci

it intersects Chatham square, then reaching East Broadway it will call for a widening of Catharine street to Cherry street, where the market slip will be met close upon the East river; a widening of Franklin street, from West street, on the southerly side, to Broadway, and on the northerly side to Baxter street, crossing the latter and Mulberry and Mot streets to Chatham square, where it will connect with the widening of Catharine street above mentioned; the extension of Sixth avenue to Canal street; the widening of the Broadway carriage road up to the present street front on each side, and the consequent arrangement of sidewalks within the first stories of all the buildings, the second stories to be supported upon ornanamental arches or piliars, and thus commensurately forcing inwardly the fronts of all lower stores; the removal of sidewalks, fences, chains and posts in and around the City Hall park, and its conversion into a concreted plaza, suitable for vehicle transit, and so that Park row. Broadway and the cross streets can be immediately releved of their choking travel—the largest trees in the park being preserved by surrounding them with curbstones and iron boxes.

The Mayor also recommends that several feet of the sidewalk in Falton street which adjoins St. Paul's caurch be given to the streetway, because one full sidewalk on that particular block is sufficient for foot passengers, and the jam of wagons thereabouts is a daily nuisance. Also that the sidewalk, pavement and curbs around the Worth Monument be removed, so as to throw into the carriageway the entire space which they now uselessly occupy, which would allow that monument to sustain to Madison square the same street situation that the equestrian statue bears to Union square the same street situation that the equestrian statue bears to Union square the same street situation that the equestrian statue bears to Union square the same attreet situation that the equestrian statue bears to Union square the same attreet situation that the equestrian st

tates. Long ago we should have become acted that New York Island was thirty minutes instead of tweives miles long.

The solution of the problem is primarily with the Legislature. It should be continually made io understand practically that this city demands constantly increasing railroad facilities between down town and up town.

One underground railway has already been authorized. But there should be at least three routes from one end of the island to the other—one central and underground, and the other two either overground or underground, upon each side of the island. There should be no preference for any particular plan. The plan which soonest promises to give immediato relief, is the plan to be assisted by us. An elevated railway on arches across streets is also claimed to be feasible, and the Assembly Committee on Railways reported favorably upon the project.

In this country every great scheme goes through

project.

In this country every great scheme goes through three phases—the phase of talking and writing about it; the phase of quarrelling about me ans and ways for it; and then the phase of perfecting it.

Upon all these problems of improvement and travel facility just referred to, our city has passed through the first and is far advanced into the second phase.

through the first and is far advanced into the second-phase.

The late President Lincoln is said to have written to the present President, when the latter, as a gene-ral, was encamped around Richmond, "Arrange a plan, and then pog away at it until it is successful." In like spirit let the city authorities patiently "peg away" upon this matter of city improvements for the solution of the two great problems so vital to the interests of commerce and the citizens' comfort. A. OAKEY HALL, Mayor.

The following are the documents accompanying

	the message of Mayor Hall:-	unj in
8	Schedule A.	
	Showing the amounts of moneys to be raised by tax	
4	pended under direction of the Common Council :	mud es
1	Advertising for the Common Council	@40 00
•	Arching the cut in Fourth avenue	40,00
•	Battery improvements	65,00
٠	Cleaning markets	80,00
	City contingapoles.	50.00
	Contingencies, Legislative Department	2,50
	Contingencies, Mayor's office.	12,50
1	Contingencies, Comptroller's office	15.00
	Contingencies, Law Department	25,00
1	Contingencies, Street Department.	20,00
8	Contingencies, Croton Aqueduct Board	5,00
a	Contingencies, Unsafe Bullding Department	15,20
•	Contingencies, Corporation Attorney	8,00
ш	Deficiencies, Croton Aqueduct Department	1,00
٠	Election expenses	38,00
àl.	Errors and delinquencies	8,80
Я	Flagging sidewalks and fencing vacant lots	2,00
a	Free floating baths	50,000
1	Judgments	200,00
N	Lamps and gas	
	Lands and places. New stone bridge at Kingsbridge.	45,000
	Offal depot	10,00
	Printing for the Common Council	50,000
	Printing for departments	75,000
	Public buildings, construction and repairs,	60,000
	Rents	66,176
	Real estate expenses	50,000
M	Removing night soil, offat and dead animals	40,500
yg)	Removing obstructions in streets and harbor	6.000
99	Repaying Broadway	68.106
9	Roads and avenues.	97,000
Я	Roads and avenues, Fifth avenue, repaying	65,000
9	Roads and avenues, sprinking.	15,000
ø	Salaries (including city courts)	104.914
	Stationery and blank books. Sewers, repairing and cleaning.	40,000
в	Sewers, repairing and cleaning	104,00
	Street Improvements. Supplies for and cleaning public offices	10,000
	Supplies for and cleaning public offices	75,00
	Tompkins square paving	40,000
9)	What sea, piers and slips	411,000
	ments, surveys, and wells and pumps	24,10
ij	and the state of t	34,10
	Total84	153,000
ı	Schedule B.	
ø		and the same
9	Showing the amount of moneys to be raised by tax	and ex

Showing the amount of moneys to be raised by tax a pended under direction of the Board of Supervisors.—
For salaries of members of the Board of Supervisors and clorks of the board, the Board of Supervisors and clorks of the board, the Supervisors and clorks of the Mayor, the Supervisors of the Mayor of the Mayor, the Supervisors of the Mayor of the May Diabursements and fees of county officers and witnesses.
Election expenses
Election expenses of Assistant District Attorneys.
Lighting and cleaning and supplies.
McComb's Dam tridge, care and maintenance of.
Printing for executive departments and indicinery.
Refurnishing for Department of Finance in new
Court House.

Refurnishing for Department of Finance in new Court House.

Rents.

Repairs to county buildings and offices.

Repairing and preserving records of County Clerk's and Regulater's offices.

and Regulater's offices to the County Clerk's and Englisher's offices.

Support of prisoners in County Jail. Total..... The following statements show the condition of the sinking fund for the redemption of the city debt, the city and county debt, to:

THE SIMING FUND FOR THE REDEMPTION OF THE CITY 

Increase in two years.

REVENUES FROM WASHINGTON AND WEST WASHINGTON MARKETS.

The revenue from these markets during the year 18:55 was.

public Improvements and from tax to be levied the present year.

It may not be inappropriate to give an estimate of the value of the property of the corporation which is pledged for the redemption of the funded debt of the city. In the follow-ing estimate cars has been taken to fix a price which the property designated would readily bring at public auction:— Wharves, piers and slips and market property.—\$15,000,000 Beal estate not used for public purposes.—\$250,000 Parks, property occupied by Fire Department, Board of Education and Metropolitan Polics...... 40,000,000

HERALD of February 18, 1692.

Schedule E.

OFFICE OF CHAS. H. HARWELL.

DEASTR—In compliance with your request to present to you a brief recital of any defect in the system of aware street paring, &c., as submit the following

you a brief recitat of any detects in the systems of sewage, street paving, Ac., as developed in practice in this city, I submit the following Systems or ARWAGE.

The design and construction of the sewers is such as to confine their operations exclusively to the reception and discharge of surface and refuse matter, which is delivered at the builkheads at the head of slips; in their construction they are filled in compacity with earth, clay, or gand, according as their location affords the material, and then had been laid to exceed two hundred and first declared by the Constructions, nearly all of which had been laid to exceed two hundred which are declared by the Constructions, nearly all of which had been built without one of Common Council in 1986, "have been built without or got of Common Council in 1986, "have been built without or got of Common Council or to which period, by virtue of an act of our State Legislature of April, 1986, authority was given to the State Legislature of April, 1986, authority was given to the State Legislature of April, 1986, authority was given to the State Legislature of April, 1986, authority was given to the black besterofore rendered our (their) operations under this head to expensive, inseffective and postliential;" and in the same report is to further declared that "to correct, or even to leasan the avils resulting from so many years of nismanagement is a task requiring muon study, care and time."

Under the requirements imposed by the new of devised grain, improvements have no doubt been introduced; it is to be repretised that and a course of operations had not been the course of the river bounding the city was not disturbed by the filling out of the shores to a bulkhead line these courses were open action and composed of all such surface water as the conformation and composed of the course of the cityer bounding the city was not disturbed by the filling out of the shores to a bulkhead line these courses were open action and composed of all such surface water as the conformation and composed of the course of the cityer bounding the cityer of the course of the course of the cityer bounding the cityer of the course of the course of the cityer bounding the cityer of the course of the course of the course of the cityer bounding the cityer of the course of the course of

oulpably arrested.
In 1856 the owners of property in Twenty-second street were compelled to construct a drain from the Ninth avenue to the Hudson river, a distance of 1,409 feet, to free their celarat from water, which reached in some cases to the basement floors, in consequence of the damming up of the water-courses of that locality when filling out to the bulkbead, and yet the subsoil was an open sand wholly free from rook or clay.

courses of that locality when sliting out to the bulkhead, and get the subsoil was an open sand wholly free from rock or clav.

Construction of Sewers.

Within a brief period the Commissioners of the Croton Aqueduct Board have imported viriled stoneware pipes of diameters reaching to eighteen inches, which they have used as conductors for sewage in many localities in place of the briek masonry of ordinary practice.

In conformation these pipes are simple, hollow cylinders without a single strengthening rib, and when in position their node are simply abuted without connection, and their only retaining band is a divided one, being composed of two semi-cylinders, misnamed caps, which can offer but little resistance to either vertical or lateral stress; and a sewer constructed with these pipes, from their insufficient capacity to afford the introduction of a man, is necessarily without manholes, and the consequent facility of being thoroughly cleared of obstructions without the disruption of a pipe at the locality. The defence made for the use of this material is its alleged economy and the facility afforded by the smoothness of its inner surface to security.

One of the requirements of the Croton Aqueduct Board in their specifications for street pavements, is that there shall be a bedding to the stones or blocks, of one foot of sand. Consequently, when a street is to be repaved, the existing bed has to be replaced with a new one.

When a party requires any operation that involves the recaking into the pavement, be is required, under the rules of this Board, "to restore the pavement and flagging to at least as good condition as previous to excavation, and the paving must be done by a person who understands the business." And under an especial act of the Legislature of 1923, the Board is given cognizance, control and general direction in the relaying of all pavements; and it is further provided, that whenever any street pavement shall have been removed, and shall not be relaid in a manner satisfactory to the Board,

this provision, so essential to the integrity of the street paving, is suforced by the Board, I leave to our citizens to determine for themselves.

By an act of the Legislature the control of the streets within the curbs has been transferred to the Croton Aqueduct Board, and there now crists the anomalous position of one Board determining grades and cress of a street and of another aligning and grading curbs, and as a consequence streets are repaired and new inclinations given to gutters without any corresponding elevation or depression of the curbs. The result of this condition of divided and varied responsibility may be witnessed in the repayement of Broadway, now in progress, the undue elevation of the arrest or the undue depressi: no of the curb at the northwest junction of Thirty-fourth street and Broadway, and at the northwest corner of Frankfort street and Broadway, and at the northwest corner of Frankfort street and Park row.

The general condition of the street pavements of this city is inferior to that of any other city in this country or Europe that have fallen under my observation, arising, in the first place, from the insufficient manner in which they are now laid; in the second place, in the great suggest of their repair lace, in the second place, in the great suggest of their repair deevers, whereby new; y-laid pavements are so frequently disturbed to lay a sever, from the want of that accord in the two operations which would require the newers to he first said. Durability in pavements subjected to the impact of loaded vehicles requires them not only to be laid in the best manner, but that the integrity of their condition should be maintained; for so long as its surface is in line it receives but the stress of the weight of a vehicle, added to the impact due to its irregularities of conformation, consequent upon frequiar subsidence, then the depressed surface receives not only the weight of a vehicle, but the impact due to its weight and motion, and consequently becomes less and less able to resi

this stress as the depressions increase in depth, from the increase in the impact.

The capacities and arrangement of the mains leading from the distributing reservoir are so insufficient and so imperfect that they fail to afford a proper supply of water.

As an exponent of the condition of distribution, I submit that in the daytime the central and lower portions of the city are not supplied at an elevation but a little over che-half of the head of the distributing reservoir, as instanced at the Bowling Green, where the level of the street is obtained in the third story of houses of moderate elevation; and the Commissioners of the Croton Aqueduct Board, in their annual-report to the Common Council in 1856, in referring to the absence of proper connections between the pipes, &c., declare that the loss of head in the day at the junction of Broadway and Canai street reached forty-air feet, and that "to correct this evil in the old districts would involve an amount of expense and faconvenience not easily calculated or appreciated."

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anount of expense and faconvenience not easily calculated or appreciated."
Reviewing, then, the elements presented, I further submit as follows:

First—The system of sewage, as designed and constructed under the authority of the Groton Aqueduct Board, up to the year 1866, has been officially declared by its members to have been the authority of the Groton Aqueduct Board, up to the year 1866, has been officially declared by its members to have been the first and that to correct and even lessen the eviles rounded and representatives of fire insurance companies, feeling result was of mismanagement, is a task involving study.

Second—All sewers in default of a construction whereby the sewage would be collected and disposed of for fertilization, should be constructed as as to diseasing at the ends of piers, instead of at bulkheads, whereby feeal and vegetable matter in superasion, might be borne off by the tidal currents, instead of being deposited at the hends of slips, to endanger the health of the clitzcus at large, as well as to impregnate the air with offensive efficiency of the constructed of the clitzcus at large, as well as to impregnate the air with offensive efficiency of the constructed of the clitz of the second of the construction of the clitz of the second of the successary to first with the construction of the clitz of the accused in the result, were present.

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retain it in form; and I have high authority that pipes in this condition are sometimes laid.

Fourth—The area of the pipes is not sufficient to admit the introduction of the body of a man, consequently it is imprecilicable to clean them other than by a rod or what may be effected by the scouring of the multer conducted, and any arrest of their operation by the collapse of a cracked pipe, by the choking consequent upon an unusual wash of soil, or the effect of a departure from the lucidization of the pipes—and a departure from inclination has occurred in the large of a sever—would involve a heavy expanselyver that attendant upon a brick sewer under like direcumstances of arrest of conduction.

Figh.—All sewers, whether of measure or alone, should be

the effect of a departure from the incidnation of the pipes—
and a departure from inclination has occurred in the laying
and the departure from inclination has occurred in the laying
and upon a brick sewer under like effections account of a rest of
conduction.

Fith—All sewers, whether of masonry or pipes, should be
hedded and laid in rubble for rully one-half of their height,
whereby water running from its courses or percolating
turough rocks would be readfy led off to the river, and thus
one prolite source of insalindry be arrested. So important
a point is this held to be by some authorities that the Surveyor of the Metropolian Commissioners of Sewers in London, in 15th, reported that "there should be two sewers; one
of the control of the sewers for a control
to other for addictant or indo and surface water, and
sentential of the sewers for the other occurry for
sewers is not at all conclusive with me, and for the following
causes:—Experience in the construction of sewers in London
has demonstrated that the average cost of supplying and
laying pipe and brick sewers for the undermonitoned capacities to be as follows:—
Stomeware upon 18 inches in diameter, area — 1.75 square
feet, 31 50 per lineal foot.

Frick, masonry, 35; but by 24; feet, area — 6.25 square feet,

Frick, masonry, 35; but by 24; feet, area — 6.25 square feet,

Frick masonry, 35; but by 24; feet, area — 6.25 square feet,

Frick masonry, 35; but by 24; feet, area — 6.25 square feet,

Frick masonry, 35; but by 24; feet, area — 6.25 square feet,

Frick masonry, 35; but by 36;

Frick masonry, 35;

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which gave to he Croton Aqueduct Board the control of the street paring.

Twe?th.—The regulation, as it is termed, of sidewalta, curb and gatter stones, street elevations, filling, pavements, and repairs of pavements, should be under the sole control of one department. Divided responsibility in executive matters is usually fatal to an enterprise, and it would be very difficult to show finat the details of varied constructions present an exception to the rule.

Thirtesth.—The necessary pipes wherewith to give the centre and lower portions of the city a full head of water should the and to be laid; and if it should be adia cased that to make the notice leads; and if it should be adianced that to make would be incurred, the and connections, a heavy approper connections made when the pipes were first laid? and especially so when that cortion of the city, as a whole, had a larger population than at present, which precludes the plea that a demand for water has lucreased with an increase of population.

reputation.

Admitting however, any and all positions that have been, or may be presented in exculpation of this great and to me inexplicable error, they are all set at manget by the single consideration that these portions of the city are exposed to the sections of fire by the insufficient head of water; which is sufficient to the sufficient head of water which is sufficient to the sufficient head of water which is sufficient to the sufficient head of the property of the sufficient head of the sufficient he

consideration of them.

In these remarks I have sedulously restricted myself to such points as must have been noticed or understood by all elastrant citizens, as I am well a ware of the very general confidence which is entertained, and in many points deservedly so, in the operations of the Groton Aqueduct Board, and uniformly by those who are not capable of comparing air its actions with the standard of processional criticism.

I have the honor to be very respectfully, your obelient servant,

Civil and Marioe Engineer,

To Hon. A. OAKEY HALL, Mayor of New York.

BOARD OF ASSISTANT ALDERMEN.

The Board of Assistant Aldermen met at two o'clock yesterday afternoon, President Monaghan in the chair.

A resolution of the Board of Aldermen, authorizing

the Central Park Commissioners to issue \$300,000 new stock, was concurred in.

An invitation to unite with the Mayor in attending

An invitation to unite with the Mayor in attending the annual celebration of the Schützen corps and the Washington National Guard was accepted.

A resolution directing the Comptroller to retain from the appropriation for city contingencies a sum sufficient to pay the increase of salary of keeper of city Hall was lost. Reconsidered and laid over.

Resolutions to pave Reade street, from Washington to West street; Pine street, from William to Peard street, and Forty-eighth street, from Third to Pinh avenue, with Belgian pavement, were adopted.

## MURDEROUS ASSAULT ON A POLICEMAN.

A Morning Episode Near Fulton Market-A Butcher's Knife vs. Policeman's Club. A vacancy was very near being made in the Second precinct police corps yesterday morning. About

three A. M. officer Dunn, of this precinct, seeing a man talking to a woman on the corner of Fulton and Front streets, and learning from her that the man had insuited her, told him to leave, and as he would not leave took hold of him, and, pusting him around the corner, huried at him that mandatory police order, "Move on." The msn did move on, but he quickly returned, having reinforced himself by another man. In a moment there was an active melée on this corner. One of these men produced a butcher knife and evinced a determination to cut the policeman into mince meat. The second stranger aided in this agreeable undertaking. Meantime officer Kenney, of the Second precionst, came to the rescue of his colleague, so that it was a square four-handed fight. The two policement's clubs against the one knife was too much. Officer Dunn received a slight stab on the wrist, which comprised the extent of injuries on their side. One of the strangers got his arm nearly broken and head badly cut. The other received a severe cut over the right eye. The two men beling worsted in the conflict were taken prisoners and conveyed to the station house, where they gave their names as Waiter B. Price and Johan Pettit. In the morning they were taken before Judge Dowling, at the Tombs, and temporarily committed on a charge of felonious assult and battery, and the further examination set down for two o'clock in the afternoon.

At two P. M. the prisoners were brought from their ceils. They looked, that is to say the brusses on their heads and one with his arm in a sting and the blood on their clothes gave them the look of having passed through a severe sangunary contest. Officer Dunn was the first witness. He told the story as given above. When he first saw the gleaming blade of the knife he thought it was a pistol, and rapping for assistance rushed upon Price, who had the knife, to take it from him.

"He tried to stab you with the knife, did he?" asked the Judge.
"The officer proceeded to show that Pettit held his club, and that he undoubtedly would have been a fool to have waited for you to stab him. I should have knocked you down very quick."

The officer proceeded to show that Pettit held his club, and that he undoubtedly would have been killed had not officer Kenney come to his assistance and hit ner, hurled at him that mandatory police order, "Move on." The man did move on, but he quickly

## THE ALLEGED ARSON CASE.

bles-Examination Before Judge Dowling-What the Accused Parties Say for Themselves-The Papers Sent to the Grand Jury. An examination in the case of John N. Briggs, Robert L. Briggs, Henry C. Ross and William P. Sheldon, arrested on charge of ficing or being im-plicated in the firing of the livery stables of Briggs Brothers, in West Twenty-third street, destroyed, with a large number of horses, on the night of the 30th of December last, took place at ten o'clock yesterday morning before Judge Dowling at the Tombs. All the prisoners—the first three named above being, will be remembered, under \$50,000 ball each—were promptly in attendance and their respective counsel.

Mr. Sheldon was brought from his cell in the City

Q. Have you anything to say, and if so, what, relative to the charge here preferred against you? A. It would be, as I am advised by counsel, sufficient to answer not guilty; but I desire further to saythat I have waived examination and given ball without now producing witnesses, because the magistrate, as I am also advised, can only estimate the question of probable cause, and may consider nimself bound for the present to accept the sworn allegations to my apparent prejudice. I deny the inconsistent inventions of the complainants wholly and in all their parts, and am ready to meet them before any jury, whether those inventions be produced to defeat my insurance claims, or whether, failing even to oblige me to modify my claims, then to attack criminally my good character, and at the proper time I will show the conspiracy that has been entered into between insurance agents and purenable witnesses to blackmail or atmorp me by the present suit.

Mr. Robert L. Briggs was least examined.

Q. What is your name? A. Robert L. Briggs.

Q. How old are you? A. Twenty-nine years.

Q. Where do you live? A. Corner 125th street, and Eighth avenue.

Q. What is your occupation? A. Livery stable keeper.

Q. Have you anything to say, and if so, what, relative to the charge here preferred against you? The answer to the hast question was the same as that of John N. Briggs.

Mr. Henry C. Ross and the fact of the many of the point of t

Q. How old are your A. Iwenty and years.
Q. Where were you born? A. Ontario county,
New York State.
Q. Where do you live? A. No. 148 West Twentyfourth street.
Q. What is your occupation? A. Foreman for
Briggs Brothers.
Q. Have you anything to say, and if so, what, relative to the charge here preferred against you? A. It
would be, as I am advised by counsel, sufficient to
answer, not guilty; but I desire further to say that I
have waived examination and given bail without
producing witnesses, because the magistrate, as I
am also advised, can only estimate the question of
the present to accept the sworn allegations to my
apparent prejudice. I deny the inconsistent inventions of the complainants wholly and in all their
parts, and am rendy to meet them before any jury,
and at the proper time I will show the conspiracy
that has been entered into between insurance agents
and purchasable winnesses to defeat the insurance
claims of my former employers.

Mr. Shelton was now called up. He made a request, through als counsel, to be allowed, under the
late law on this subject, to testify on his own behalf.
The Judge said he could interpose no objection, and
Mr. Sheldon was accordingly sworn. He confirmed
simply the statement of his published in Sunday's
Heilalb.

"Is that all Mr. Sheldon has to offer for himself."

"the Judge asked.

"Yes," replied his counsel.

"Well, I'll have to recommit him to prison for trial
unless he can find ball," said the Judge.

"How much ball do you require?" asked his counsel,

"The same as for each of the other accused pur-

"How much ball do you require?" asked his counsel.
"The same as for each of the other accused parties—\$50,000.
"The ball cannot be given now," said the counsel.
Mr. Sheldon, therefore, was formally examined.
Q. What is your name? A. William P. Sheldon.
Q. How old are you? A. Forty-one years.
Q. Where were you born? A. Ontario county,
New York State.
Q. Where do you live? A. National Hotel.
Q. What is your occupation? A. Veterinar yeargeon.

Q. What is your occupations at vectorial yeargeon.
Q. Have you anything to say, and if so, what, relative to the charge here preferred against you? A.
Not guilty: the statement I have sworn to is my answer to this question.
The above having concluded the preliminary examination, the two Briggs brothers and Mr. Ross
were allowed to depart on their previous ball and
Mr. Sheldon was sent to his old quarters in the City
Prison. The papers were at once sent to the Grand
lary.

MAJOR GENERAL TERRY,—Major General Terry has taken the dwelling on Oak street, last occupied by General Meade, where his residence will be in future. His household will consist of his mother and two sisters, all of whom accompanied him here. The ladies of the city, we presume, will not be long in calling upon them to make them feel fully domesticated in Atlanta,—Atlanta New Bra. June 4.